



Minnesota State High School Mathematics League

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NEWSLETTER 53

October 29, 2025

Executive Director Message

Hey, will ya look at that - Meet 1 is right around the corner! Thank you, coaches, for all the work you have been doing to support and prepare the mathletes on our 154 teams for this first meet, and for the 2025-26 League season in general.

Thank you also to those of you who participated in the sample meet recently. On our end (League administration), it accomplished the goal of testing the scoring system and working out kinks. For instance, we became aware of some false-positive flags of our scoring website on several schools' web filters. This is the same issue we encountered during Meet 3 last year, and while several key aspects of the problem are outside our control, we are taking all available actions to resolve the flags, while also seeking a longer-term solution to prevent this entirely in the future. Please see the [Troubleshooting Website Issues](#) section below for details on what to do if you experience online issues during Meet 1.

Also, several coaches have reached out to us regarding Meet 2 scheduling for schools that are not in session the entire week of Thanksgiving. See [Meet 2 Policy](#) below for a League-wide special scheduling allowance to address this issue.

Lastly, if your division happens to be meeting in person on Tuesday Nov 4th, please drop me an email - I would like to visit and observe one division per meet this year if possible.

Happy Meet $\frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{1 + \dots}}} \cdot \sqrt{1 + \sqrt{1 + \sqrt{1 + \dots}}} !$

Mike Reiners
mreiners@chof.net

Interim Executive Director

Final Class and Section Placements

We have finalized all class and section placements as of October 28th, and all schools affected by the final changes have been individually notified. Please review the following final class and section placements [here](#).

Regular Season Meet Reminders

- Time slot signups open at 9:00 AM on the Wednesday before each meet. These slots help prevent server overload and serve as general guidelines, not strict time assignments.
- Associate Director Sharin Park (parkshar@augsborg.edu) will email the meet problems and solutions that same day.
- Challenges to meet results are due by 12:00 PM on the Thursday after the meet. Please review the Math League Manual language below about challenges:

If the official solutions contain an error, and it is discovered prior to the meet, all efforts will be made to alert all coaches as to the correct solution. Coaches would then use the corrected solution to judge a response as acceptable or not.

During the meet, if the official solutions contain an error, the coach of the team that discovers the error should immediately notify the League office (parkshar@augsborg.edu). If students believe an answer has been graded incorrectly, or if the student had a unique interpretation of the question which resulted in a different answer, the students must submit a challenge to their coach no later than noon on the Thursday **following** the meet.

Note: Most challenges submitted usually fall in one of these two categories – challenges of a grading mistake by the coach (the student actually got it right but the coach mistakenly marked it wrong) or challenges caused by a unique interpretation of the question resulting in a different answer.

Challenges should be handled in this manner:

- Challenges of mistakes made by a coach or grader should be fixed locally.
- All other challenges should be sent to the League office.

Process for submitting a challenge to the League office:

A short explanation as to the rationale for the challenge should be emailed to parkshar@augsborg.edu and to the Division's Coordinator by noon on the Thursday following the meet. Students may write explanations but may need a coach's assistance. The League will make every effort to rule on the challenge by the end of that week. Scores will be adjusted as necessary.

In general, only the students who challenge a solution can be awarded points for that challenge. If a student does not issue a challenge, yet that student's answer is correct in light of the challenge, that student who did not challenge will NOT be awarded the point(s) for a correct solution. Therefore, it is wiser to challenge than not.

Given this challenge process, and to ensure the most uniformity, coaches should mark answers correct ONLY if the student answer matches the answer provided in the League answer key.

Meet 2 Policy

The challenge window for Meet 2 will remain open until the Monday following Thanksgiving (Dec. 1).

Alternate division scheduling option for Meet 2:

If schools in your division would be unable to participate in Meet 2 **because** they have No School days on **both** Monday Nov. 24 **and** Tuesday Nov. 25, then it is allowable to hold Meet 2 on the preceding Friday, Nov. 21. This is the *only* reason and option for a pre-approved date change. A change for any other reason, or to any other date, must still be requested and approved through the League office (parkshar@augsborg.edu)..

Also - and especially critical with this type of scheduling - **no student shall be given any physical or digital copy of solutions until at least the Wednesday following the meet** (in this case, Dec. 3). Students may review the solutions at/during the meet, but not take copies with them. Any access to the solutions for purpose of challenges must be arranged through and carefully guided by the coach.

Troubleshooting Website Issues

If, prior to Meet 1, you find you are unable to access the League scoring website because it is being blocked by your school's firewall program, ask your school/district IT department to whitelist the site **mnmathleague.org** or **https://www.mnmathleague.org**. You can tell them that we have scanned the site repeatedly, both externally and on the server itself, and found both to be clean.

In the meantime, please let the League office (parkshar@augzburg.edu) know ASAP. To complete Meet 1, you may need to either have students accessing the site through a cell phone (not on school WiFi) or doing the meet entirely on paper.

If doing the meet on paper, please record the scores for every problem on a score sheet and submit in an email to parkshar@augzburg.edu, kannelg@hfchs.org, and mreiners@hof.net (cc all three) by Tuesday (11/04) evening at 11:59 PM CT. We will not accept any late submissions so that we can close Meet 1 and release scores on time. Please see the different options to submit below.

- If you have access to the scoring site at all, you can download your roster from the website by going under Team Admin \ Team meet setup and there find links to create a printable PDF of your roster.
- If you have no access, you can use the [linked score sheet](#). Please write down the scores and submit using the directions above.
- If you cannot access any of the following, you may need to scan and email each student's test. Please make sure the scoring team members are clearly indicated.